

Re: OSHA at US Ecology

Monday, March 18, 2019 10:07 AM

Subject	Re: OSHA at US Ecology
From	Ball, Stephen
To	Kearns, David G. - OSHA
Sent	Tuesday, November 20, 2018 7:59 AM

David,

Really appreciate the call yesterday and coordination between our agencies.

Operations began yesterday late afternoon on securing the drums outside of the building. That operation will continue today. There were no safety issues and I expect the operation to continue to go smoothly today.

I have asked US Ecology for a list of waste streams that they believe are inside the building. They have indicated to me verbally that there is nothing of immediate concern. Once they deliver the list and I agree with their assessment (and the exterior drum recovery op is complete) I will likely ramp down EPA's emergency response involvement and consider the site secure from a hazardous substance standpoint.

One question for you regarding the drums outside the building: They have asked that once they recover and secure the drums away from the building they would like to re-enter them into their respective waste stream storage areas. Question for you is do those wastes need to be kept separate from the rest of the facility wastes pending an investigation? The magnesium drums will be kept separate regardless as that material was involved in the accident.

Thanks again for the coordination.

Stephen Ball

EPA On-Scene Coordinator

(208) 530-9107

On Nov 19, 2018, at 4:00 PM, Kearns, David G. - OSHA <Kearns.David@dol.gov> wrote:

Stephen,

I appreciate our call today. Sorry we didn't meet before an event like this. I used to participate in environmental crimes task force meetings at the US Attorney's conference room a couple times a year.

Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or comments.

We spoke with Matt Kiddy about the plan to address the remaining waste outside the building.

Tomorrow morning I will be on a call with our Health Response Team that has more experience with events like these. We will keep you informed.

NOTE: We may draft a site-control agreement if needed as well.

Regards,

Dave

208-321-2983 direct

David Kearns, MPA, CIH

Area Director

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